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THE

CHARTER

OF

QUEEN'S COLLEGE,

IN

NEW-JERSEY.

university

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CHARTER &c.

GEORGE the third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, &c. To all to whom these presents shall come greeting: Whereas our loving subjects being of the protestant reformed religion, according to the constitution of the reformed churches in the United Provinces, and using the discipline of the said churches, as approved and instituted by the national synod of Dort, in the years one thousand six hundred and eighteen, and one thousand six hundred and nineteen, are in this and the neighbouring Provinces very numerous, consisting of many churches and religious assemblies, the ministers and elders of which having taken into serious consideration, the manner in which the said churches might be properly supplied with an able, learned and well qualified ministry; and thinking it necessary, and being very desirous that a College might be erected for that purpose within this our Province of New-Jersey, in which the learned languages and other branches of useful knowledge may be taught, and degrees conferred; and especially that young men of suitable abilities may be instructed in divinity, preparing them for the ministry, and supplying the necessity of the churches; for themselves and in behalf of their churches, presented a petition to our trusty and well beloved WILLIAM FRANKLIN, ESQ. Governour and Commander in Chief, in and over our Province of New-Jersey

in America; setting forth that inconveniencies are manifold and the expenses heavy, in either being supplied with ministers of the gospel from foreign parts, or sending young men abroad for education; that the present and increasing necessity for a considerable number to be employed in the ministry, is great; that a preservation of a fund for the necessary uses of instruction very much depends upon a charter.

And therefore humbly entreat, that some persons might be incorporated in a body politick, for the purposes aforesaid; and we being willing to grant the reasonable request and prayer of the said petitioners, and to promote learning for the benefit of the community, and advancement of the protestant religion of all denominations; and more especially to remove as much as possible the necessity our said loving subjects have hitherto been under, of sending their youth intended for the ministry, to a foreign country for education, and of being subordinate to a foreign ecclesiastical jurisdiction: Know ye therefore, that considering the premises, we do of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, by these presents, will, ordain, grant and constitute, that there be a College, called *Queen's College*, erected in our said Province of New-Jersey, for the education of youth in the learned languages, liberal and useful arts and sciences, and especially in divinity; preparing them for the ministry, and other good offices. And that the Trustees of the said College and their successors for ever, may and shall be one body corporate and politick, in deed, fact and name; and shall be called, known and distinguished by the name of the *Trustees of Queen's College*, in New-Jersey: And we having further willed and constituted, and by these presents of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, do for us, our heirs and successors, will, give, grant constitute and ordain, that there shall be from henceforth for ever, a body politick, consisting of the *Trustees of the said Queen's College*, in New-Jersey. And for the more full and more perfect erection of the said corporation and body politick, consisting of the *Trustees of Queen's College*, in New-Jersey. We do of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, create, ordain, constitute, nominate

and appoint, the governour or commander in chief, the president of the council, our chief justice, and our attorney general of said colony, for the time being; Sir William Johnson, Baronet, and Johannes Henricus Goetschius, Johannes Leydt, David Maurinus, Martinus Van Harlingen, Jacob R. Hardenbergh, and William Jackson of our said colony of New-Jersey, Samuel Verbryk, Barent Vrooman, Maurice Goetschius, Eilardus Westerlo, John Schureman, of our province of New-York; and Philip Wyberg, and Jonathan Dubois of the province of Pennsylvania; Hendrick Fisher, Peter Zabriskie, Peter Hasenclever, Peter Schenck, Tunis Dey, Philip French, John Covenhoven, Henricus Kuyper, of our colony of New-Jersey, Esqrs. and Simon Johnson, Philip Livingston, Johannes Hardenbergh, Abraham Hasbrouck, Theodorus Van Wyck, Abraham Lott, Robert Livingston, Levi Pauling, John Brinckerhoff, Nicholas Stillwill Martinus Hoffman, Jacob H. Ten Eyck, John Haring, Isaac Vrooman, Barnardus Ryder, of our province of New-York, Esqrs., *Trustees of our said Queen's College*, in New-Jersey; and that the said Trustees, do at their first meeting, after the receipt of these presents and before they proceed to any business, take the oaths appointed to be taken by an act passed in the sixth year of our reign, entitled, "an act for "altering the oaths of abjuration and assurance, and for amending "so much of an act of the seventh year of her late majesty Queen "Anne, entitled, for the improvement of the union of the two king-"doms, as after the time therein limited, requires the delivery of "certain lists and copies therein mentioned to persons indicted of "high treason, or misprison of treason: as also that they make and "subscribe the declaration mentioned in an act of parliament, made "in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of King Charles the second, "entitled," an act for preventing dangers which may happen from popish recusants, and likewise take an oath for faithfully executing the office or trust, reposed in them; which said oaths shall be administered to them by any one of our justices of the supreme court, or judges of the inferior court of common pleas of this our colony of New-Jersey; and when, and as often as any new member or officer shall be elected or chosen hereafter, pursuant to this our charter, he or they so elected or chosen, shall take and subscribe the aforementioned oaths, and declarations in the manner above

directed, before his admission into his trust or office. And we do will and direct, that the first meeting of the said trustees, shall be at or near the court house in New-Barbadoes, in the county of Bergen, on the second Tuesday in May next, but all other meetings hereafter to be held, shall be at such times and places in our said colony, as the majority of the trustees from time to time shall think proper. And we do will and direct that no meeting of the trustees, succeeding the first already fixed, shall be valid, or legal, for doing any business whatsoever, unless publick notice of such meeting shall have been given in the Gazette, or other publick papers printed in New-York, at least three weeks before the day of meeting, signed by the president or person officiating as clerk to the trustees, for the time being; or unless the time and place shall be fixed by the majority of the trustees, at their last meeting, and notice thereof given as before directed: and we further will and grant that the said trustees, or any twelve, or greater number, shall have full power and authority to elect by ballot, and not otherwise, any number of persons or trustees, at any, and upon any vacancy, so that the whole number of trustees do not exceed forty-one, and that not above one third of the said number, at any time, be of those ordained ministers of the gospel; and that at their first and every meeting, the governour of our colony for the time being, shall be president of the Trustees, and in his absence, the president of our council, and in his absence, our chief justice, and in his absence, our attorney general, each for the time being; and in case of their absence, we will, and order that the trustees present, shall elect and choose one from among themselves, who shall be president of the trustees at that meeting; which said president, herein before appointed, or so chosen, is hereby authorised and empowered to be president of the trustees at the said meeting; to regulate their proceedings, take in suffrages, and have, over and above his vote as a trustee, a casting votes, when the votes of the trustees are equal. And we further of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, will, give, grant, and appoint, that the said trustees and their successors shall for ever hereafter, be in deed, fact, and name, a body corporate and politick, and that they the said body corporate and politick, shall be known and distinguished in all deeds, grants, bargains, sales,

writings, evidences, moniments, or otherwise however, and in all courts for ever hereafter, shall and may sue, and be sued, plead, and be empleaded, by the name of the *Trustees of Queen's College* in New-Jersey; and that the said corporation by the name aforesaid, shall be able, and in law capable, for the use of the said College, to have, get, acquire, purchase, receive and possess, lands, tenements, hereditaments, jurisdictions, and franchises, for themselves and their successors, in fee simple or otherwise howsoever; and to purchase, receive, or build any house, or houses, or any other buildings as they shall think needful and convenient, for the use of the said *Queen's College;* and in such place or places in this our colony of New-Jersey, as they the said trustees, or the major part of them, met as aforesaid, shall agree upon; and also to receive any goods and chattels, lands or tenements, for the use aforesaid; and also to have, accept and receive, any rents, profits, annuities, gifts, legacies, donations, and bequests, of any kind whatsoever, for the use aforesaid: Nevertheless that the yearly clear value of the premises, do not exceed the sum of three thousand pounds sterling; and therewith or otherwise to support and pay (as the said trustees and their successors, or the major part of them, which regularly convene for that purpose, shall agree and see cause) the president, professors, tutors, and other officers or ministers of the said *Queen's College*, their respective annual salaries or allowances, and all such other necessary and contingent charges, as from time to time, shall arise and accrue relating to the said *Queen's College*. And also to grant, bargain, sell, let, or assign, lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods or chattels, and contract, or do all other things whatsoever by the name aforesaid, and for the use aforesaid, in as full and ample manner to all intents and purposes, as any natural person, or other body politick or corporation, is able to do by the laws of our realm of Great Britain, or of our said province of New-Jersey. And of our further grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, to the intent that our said corporation and body politick, may answer the end of their erection and constitution, and may have perpetual succession, and continuance for ever, We do for us, our heirs and successors, hereby will, give, and grant, unto the said trustees of *Queen's College*, in New-Jersey, and to their successors for ever, that when any twelve of the said

trustees for the time being, are convened and met together as aforesaid, for the service of the said college, they shall be capable to act as fully and amply to all intents and purposes, as if all the trustees of the said college were personally present; and all matters whatsoever, under the care of the trustees, shall be determined by the majority of those twelve, or any greater number so convened and met together, as fully and effectually as if the same had been concluded by the plurality of votes of the whole number of trustees, met and assembled. And we do hereby give and grant, full power and authority to any five, or more of the said trustees, to call meetings of the said trustees, from time to time, and to order notice to be given to the said trustees, of the time and places of meetings for the service aforesaid, as herein before is directed.

And also, we do hereby for us, our heirs, and successors, will, give and grant unto the *Trustees of Queen's College*, in New-Jersey, and their successors for ever, that the said trustees, from time to time, and for ever hereafter, do elect, nominate, and appoint such a qualified person, being a member of the Dutch Reformed Church aforesaid, as they or the major part of any twelve of them, convened for that purpose, as above directed, shall think fit, to be the president of the said college; and to have the immediate care of the education and government of such students, as shall be sent and admitted into the said college for education and instruction; and shall and may, by and with the consent of the majority of the said trustees as aforesaid, confer all such honorary degrees, as usually are granted and conferred in any of our colleges in any of our colonies in America; and also, that the said trustees do elect, nominate and appoint a professor in divinity, who shall and may read lectures in theology, instruct the students in the science of divine truths and the knowledge of the holy scriptures, who also may be president of the college, or not, as the trustees shall see meet and convenient; and also such a number of other professors and tutors, to assist the president of the said college, in the education and government of the students belonging to it, as they the said trustees, or their successors, or the major part of them, which shall convene for that purpose, as above directed, shall from time to time, and at any time hereafter, think necessary, for the advantage, and well being of the said college.

Provided always, and it is hereby declared, and expressly enjoined, that there shall always be, residing at or near said college, at least one professor, or teacher, well versed in the English language elected, nominated, maintained and supported by the said corporation, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, grammatically to instruct the students of the said college, in the knowledge of the English language. Provided also, that all minutes of the meetings, and transactions of the trustees, and all rules, orders, and regulations, relating to the government of the said college, and all accounts relating to the receipts, and payments of money, shall be in the English language, and no other. And we do hereby further give and grant to the said trustees, and their successors, or the major part of any twelve of them, convened for that purpose, as above directed, full power and authority, at any time to displace, and discharge from the service of the said *Queen's College*, such president, professor of divinity, professors and tutors, and to elect others in their room and stead; and also that the said trustees, or their successors as above directed, do, from time to time, as occasion shall require, elect, constitute, and appoint a treasurer, (which treasurer shall give security to the trustees for the faithful performance of his office, for such sum, and in such manner as the said trustees shall see fit to require) a clerk, and steward for the said college, and shall likewise appoint to them, and each of them, their respective business and trusts, and displace and discharge from the service of said college, such treasurer, clerk, or steward, and elect others in their room and stead; which president, professor of divinity, tutors, professors, treasurer, clerk, and steward, so elected and appointed, We do for us, our heirs, and successors, by these presents, constitute and establish in their several offices, and do give them and every of them, full power and authority, to exercise the same in the said *Queen's College*, in New-Jersey, according to the direction, and during the pleasure of the said trustees, as fully and freely as any other the like officers in any of our colleges in our realm of Great Britain, lawfully may or ought to do. And also, that the said trustees, and their successors in the manner above directed, as often as the place of any one or more of the said trustees, shall become vacant by the death, removal, or immoral conduct of any one of the members

(which conduct shall be determined by the trustees, or the majority of them) shall and may elect and appoint, in the manner before directed, such other trustee, or trustees, to supply the place of him or them so dying, or otherwise becoming unfit, or incapable to serve the said college; and every trustee so elected, and appointed, shall, by virtue of these presents, and of such election and appointment, be vested with all the powers and privileges, which any of the other trustees of the said college, are hereby invested with. And we do further of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, will, give, and grant, and by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, do give, and grant, unto the said *Trustees of the said Queen's-College*, in New-Jersey, that they and their successors, convened for that purpose, as above directed, may make, and they are hereby fully empowered from time to time, freely and fully to make and establish, such ordinances, orders and laws, as may tend to the good wholesome government of the said college, and all the students, and the several officers, and ministers thereof, and to the publick benefit of the same, not repugnant to the laws and statutes of our realm of Great Britain, or of this our province of New-Jersey: and such ordinances, orders and laws, which shall be so made as aforesaid, we do by these presents, for us our heirs, and successors, ratify, allow and confirm, as good and effectual to oblige and bind all the said students, and several officers, and ministers of the said *Queen's-College;* and we do hereby authorize and empower the said trustees of the said college, and the president, professor of divinity, professors, and tutors, by them elected, and appointed, to put such laws and ordinances in execution, to all proper intents and purposes. And we do further by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, give, and grant, unto the said *Trustees of Queen's-College*, in New-Jersey, and to their successors, that they shall have a common seal, under which they may pass diplomas, and certificates of advancement in literature, and the science of theology, as aforesaid. And that the said trustees of said college, by deed, or deeds of conveyance, leases, or other legal instruments, duly executed, under the hands of seven of the trustees, at any publick meeting, convened as herein before directed, and with the seal of the corporation

affixed thereto, may pass the estate of the said corporation, in lands or tenements, in fee, or for years, to any person or persons; and the same deeds or leases, shall pass the estate thereby intended to be granted or leased, to all intents and purposes; and to notify all the necessary affairs and business, of and concerning the said corporation, or of and concerning the said *Queen's College*, in New-Jersey; which common seal shall be engraved in such form, and with such inscription, as shall be devised by the said *Trustees of the said College*, or the majority, convened as above directed; and shall have a book or books of entry, for the use of the rtustees to be in such custody, with all other writings as they shall appoint. And we do further for us, our heirs, and successors, give, and grant, unto the said *Trustees of Queen's College*, in New-Jersey, and their successors, or any twelve of them, as above-said, full power and authority, from time to time, to nominate and appoint, all other inferior officers and ministers, which they shall judge necessary for the use of the College, not herein particularly named or mentioned: which officers, or ministers, we do hereby empower to execute their offices or trusts, as fully and freely as any other the like officers and ministers in any of our Colleges, in our realm of Great Britain, lawfully may or ought to do. And lastly, our express will and pleasure is, and we do by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, give, and grant, unto the *Trustees of Queen's College*, in New-Jersey, and their successors for ever, that these our letters patent, or the enrolment thereof, shall be good and effectual in law to all intents and purposes, against us, our heirs, and successors, without any other license, grant, or confirmation, from us, our heirs, and successors, hereafter by the said Trustees to be had and obtained. Notwithstanding the not reciting, or misreciting, or not naming, or misnaming of the aforesaid officers, franchises, privileges, immunities, or other the premises, or any of them, and notwithstanding a writ of *Ad Quod Damnum*, hath not issued forth to enquire of the premises, or any of them before the ensealing hereof, any statute, act, ordinance, provision, or any other matter or thing, to the contrary, notwithstanding: To have, hold, and enjoy all and singular, the privileges, advantages, liberties, immunities, and all other the premises herein or hereby granted, and given, or which are meant,

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mentioned, or intended to be herein and hereby granted, unto them the said *Trustees of the said Queens College*, in New-Jersey, and to their successors for ever. In testimony whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent, and the great seal of our said province of New-Jersey, to be hereunto affixed. Witness, our trusty and well beloved, WILLIAM FRANKLIN, Esquire, Governour and Commander in Chief, of our said province of New-Jersey, this twentieth day of March, in the tenth year of our reign, *Anno Domini* ,one thousand, seven hundred and seventy.

AN ACT

RELATIVE TO QUEEN'S COLLEGE &c.

Passed the 31*st of May*, 1799.

I. Whereas William Franklin Esquire, late governour of the then province of New-Jersey, by his charter, bearing date the twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and seventy, did establish a College, by the name of Queen's College, in the said province; and whereas the trustees of said College have, by their petition, prayed that the said charter, with certain alterations and amendments, may be confirmed: Therefore, *Be it enacted by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That the oath to support the constitution of the United States, and the oath of allegiance to this State, as by law prescribed, be substituted in the place of the oaths required by the said charter.

II. *And be it enacted*, That the notice for the meetings of the trustees of the said college be given in any newspaper published in the State of New-Jersey or of New-York, instead of New-York only.

III. *And be it enacted*, That such parts of the said charter as restrict those ordained ministers of the gospel, at any time elected trustees, not to exceed one third of the whole, and as direct that the governour of the colony for the time being, and in his absence, the president of the council, and in his absence, the chief justice, and in his absence, the attorney general, shall be the president of the trustees, at their first and every meeting, be, and are hereby revoked and annulled; and that the governour of this State for the time being, shall, when attending, be president of the said trustees at their meetings.

IV. *And be it enacted*, That the powers of granting degrees, vested in the president of the said college, by and with the consent of the majority of the said trustees, established as a quorum in the said charter, be, and they hereby are extended to the conferring of any degrees granted by any other college or university.

V. *And be it enacted*, That the said charter, with the before-mentioned alterations and amendments, be, and the same hereby is ratified and confirmed.

VI. *And be it enacted*, That the act, entitled "An Act to alter, amend, and confirm the charter of Queen's College, in New-Jersey," passed the fifth day of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, seven hundred and eighty-one, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

A SUPPLEMENT

TO THE ACT ENTITLED

"AN ACT RELATIVE TO QUEEN'S COLLEGE."

WHEREAS the Trustees of Queen's College, in New-Jersey, have represented to the Legislature, that certain amendments to their Charter would be conducive to their convenience; and moreover, requesting that the name, by which said institution is known, may be changed. Therefore,

I. *Be it enacted by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the Trustees of said college be, and they are, hereby authorized to hold their annual commencement for the institution, over which they preside, on such day and at such time as they may think proper to appoint for that purpose, any thing in their charter of incorporation contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

II. *And be it enacted,* That the said Trustees, be and they are hereby authorized to meet for the transaction of any business, either upon adjournment or otherwise, upon such day and at such time or times as they may appoint, without the necessity of advertising such meeting in any public newspaper, as heretofore; any provision in their charter of incorporation contained, or of any supplement, or amendment thereto, to the contrary notwithstanding.

III. *And be it enacted,* That the name of "Queen's College," in their charter of incorporation contained, be, and the same hereby is changed to that of "Rutgers College," and that the said corporation, shall from and after the passing of this act, be known and designated by the name and style of "The Trustees of Rutgers College in New-Jersey." *Provided nevertheless,* that nothing in this act contained shall be construed to affect, or in anywise impair, any contract, specialty, deed, mortgage, or other instrument of writing heretofore made, had, or given, to, by, or from, the said "Trustees of Queen's College, in New-Jersey,"

C. Passed November 30th, 1825.

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